

Its ridiculous what our representatives are bickering about at the Capitol nowadays, especially when there is vulnerability towards terrorism, educational breakdown, and other matters more worthy of (if not demanding) our attention. Which leads me to ask, "WHAT IS THE BIG F'N DEAL?!?" You can't deny that traffic and weather information is useful to any radio listener, especially to the commuter from the LA area, like me, who must deal with the everchanging, everworsening traffic among the tangle of roads and highways. And where is the harm in listening to weather updates? Heck, its boring, especially to a guy, like me again, who lives in almost 365 days of sunshine and warmth. But it certainly helps the guy from Boston, or anywhere else for that matter, who must deal with harsher weather changes than I do. It is the American listener's choice to listen to what he/she wants to.

So how about laying down the swords and working together to deal with more important issues already plaguing our great Country? Let XM Radio broadcast the quality stations that are lacking in the FM airwaves nowadays. The variety of stations that I receive through XM has certainly opened up my eyes (and ears) to a wealth of information and music, and I am no longer drowned in commercialism like in FM. I appreciate that. I've paid for it. The subscribers to XM radio have chosen to pay for quality radio. I have not heard anything negative from other subscribers about XM; everyone has effectively abandoned FM/AM for XM, and I believe therein lies the threat that the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) has felt from the success of satellite radio. However, this is not justification to limit satellite radios' broadcast of "locally oriented" material.

I oppose NAB's petition 04-160 and I urge the FCC to reject the petition.